



4.2.14 Yavapai County

Geography

Yavapai County covers 8,125 square miles and is located in the central portion of the State. The County is mapped into three ecoregions, Forests, Desert and Shrublands. The Forests offer mountainous landscape, elevations of 4,000 to 13,000 feet, resulting in cool summers and cold winters. The Desert is an arid environment that covers much of southwestern Arizona, sits from sea level to 3,000 feet and has hot and dry summers and mild winters. The Shrublands elevation is 4,000 to 5,000 feet with warm summers and cool winters.

Population

The County represents one of the fastest growing populations in Arizona. Between 1990 and 2000, the population grew by a remarkable 145.8%. In 2005, the County's population was 205,105. Camp Verde, Chino Valley, Cottonwood, Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Sedona comprise the bulk of the population. All of the communities are expected to continue to grow moderately, with Prescott and Prescott Valley projected to post especially high population gains in the coming decades. Based on some of the jurisdictions' past and most recent population data, the projected data may appear inaccurate. This discrepancy is due to higher than expected growth and the projection data source. The US Census Bureau's latest published survey is from the year 2000.

Yavapai County Population, 1990-2040							
Jurisdiction	1990	2000	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040
Yavapai County	68,145	167,517	205,105	241,667	305,343	355,462	390,954
Camp Verde	6,243	9,451	10,730	11,407	14,068	16,318	17,884
Chino Valley	4,837	7,835	12,325	10,445	12,771	14,928	16,580
Clarkdale	2,144	3,422	3,680	3,932	4,786	5,531	6,067
Cottonwood	5,918	9,179	10,860	10,749	15,246	19,053	21,706
Dewey-Humboldt	3,640	6,295	4,030	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jerome	403	329	330	686	772	847	901
Prescott	26,592	33,938	40,770	42,272	49,863	56,472	61,222
Prescott Valley	8,858	23,535	30,575	35,776	46,365	56,427	64,307
Sedona (Coconino & Yavapai)	7,720	10,192	10,935	12,380	14,611	16,546	18,088
Yavapai Apache Reservation	N/A	773	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yavapai Prescott Reservation	143	182	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Note: Figures for 1990, 2000, 2005 from Arizona Dept. of Commerce. Figures for 2010-2040 from AZ DES (projections date from 1997).							
Source: Arizona Department of Commerce, May 2003; Arizona Department of Economic Security, February 1997.							

Economy & Labor Force

The major industries in the County include retail trade, services, and public administration. Of the 89,903 members of the civilian labor force, 23% work in the services industry, 13% work in trade, and 12% work in federal and local government. The County's unemployment rate for 2005 was 4.1%, which stands in comparison to the statewide average of 4.6% for the same period.

Historic Hazard Events

During the development of the original State of Arizona All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, a list of historic hazard events was compiled. Most counties researched local records and governmental databases to update and add records of recent hazards to the state compiled list for use in their plans. Additional hazard records were researched using the same criteria, with the exception that all damages greater than \$1 were included. Therefore, due to the variety of data sources and criteria, it should be kept in mind that the numbers reported reflect the availability of such data from those sources and the numbers are expected to under-predict the losses actually sustained over the past 30 to 40 years. A more thorough search for historic data in future planning efforts is mentioned in the county plans and encouraged by ADEM.

It is our hope that this data coupled with other risk assessment information will prove to be instrumental in assisting the County and State in future planning and mitigation efforts. We believe this can happen by this data accurately indicating which hazards we are most susceptible to; how damaging these hazards can be to us; and the damage costs or costs avoided through future mitigation projects.



Historic Record of Disaster Events in Yavapai County								
Event Type	Statewide or Multiple County, Incl Yavapai				Substantially Yavapai			
	Total	Fatalities	Injuries	Loss \$	Total	Fatalities	Injuries	Loss \$
Dam Failure	0	0	0	0	2	150	0	0
Drought	67	0	0	300,291,000	0	0	0	0
Earthquake	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Flooding/Flash Flooding	15	19	115	1,599,569,000	62	0	2	12,175,000
Hazardous Materials Incidents	3	0	0	493,000	17	0	08	155,000
Thunderstorms/High Winds	6	0	0	7,050,000	161	0	3	19,188,000
Tornadoes/Dust Devils	0	0	0	0	37	0	08	312,000
Tropical Storms / Hurricane	9	37	975	767,428,000	0	0	0	0
Wildfire	17	0	0	3,115,000	170	0	0	4,823,000
Winter Storms	17	9	5	2,520,000	0	0	0	0
Note: "Statewide or Multiple County, Incl Yavapai" events met the 1 or more of the following criteria: at least 1 injury and/or fatality or Historical Significance. All had at least \$50,000 in reported Losses. "Substantially Yavapai" events met 1 or more of the following criteria: at least 1 reported injury and/or fatality or Historical Significance. No minimum dollar amount for Losses was used. All information is derived from the best data available at the Source: Yavapai County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, FEMA Approved September 2006.								

Vulnerability

The County has a comparatively small number but modest proportion of population that is potentially vulnerable to hazards. There is a relatively aged resident base with only 20.1% of its citizens less than 18 years of age, but 22% over the age of 65. Contrasting with its resident population, housing units are comparatively young, with 14.5% being built prior to 1970.

Yavapai County Populations Potentially Vulnerable to Hazards, 2005				
Jurisdiction	Population			
	Total	Under 18 yrs	65+ years	Below Poverty Level
Arizona	6,044,985	1,607,966	773,758	840,253
Yavapai County	205,105	41,226	45,123	24,513
As a % of County	100%	20.1%	22%	12%
As a % of State	3.4%	2.6%	5.8%	2.9%
Source: Estimates based on US Census Bureau data, 2007. Poverty Level as defined by US Census Bureau.				

Yavapai County Dwelling Units Potentially Vulnerable to Hazards, 2005		
Jurisdiction	Housing Units	
	Total	Built Before 1970
Arizona	2,544,806	490,710
Yavapai County	97,270	14,095
Source: Estimates based on US Census Bureau. Data, 2007.		

Hazards & Mitigation Strategy

Using the results of the County's vulnerability and capability analysis and the goals and objectives, a list of actions/projects was formulated. The actions/projects were then evaluated and ranked using the STAPLEE procedure. Below are the top ranking identified hazards and their actions/projects as indicated in the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA on September 6, 2006:

Flooding/Flash Flooding

Action 1: Proposed channelization of Lynx Creek downstream of SR 69 through Fain Rd., bridge. Channel will contain 100 year flood flows with gabion bank stabilization. Local asset exposure of approximately \$5 million.

Action 2: Channel bank restoration to prevent ongoing erosion hazard to protect existing and future buildings and infrastructure.

Thunderstorms/High Winds

Action 1: Produce a video for local cable airing discussing the dangers and losses that occur due to high wind events to protect existing and future buildings and infrastructure.



Action 2: Produce a video for local cable airing discussing the safety actions and precautions to take before/during high wind events.

Wildfires

Action 1: Develop neighborhood wildfire assessment and rank at-risk neighborhoods with the goals to provide accurate wildfire information to residents and motivate them to implement personal and neighborhood mitigation measures.

Action 2: Support two full-time crews dedicated to hazard fuel reduction, fire suppression and public education in the Prescott Basin and surrounding areas.

Mitigation Strategy Progress

Through development of this Plan, the need to significantly refine the goals/objectives and actions/projects in our original Plan was evident. We believe this need is a result of the determination to focus the Plan more on natural caused hazards as other hazards are covered in their appropriate plans (i.e. health, terrorism, etc.). There is also much to be said about the increased amount of information available regarding hazard mitigation planning.

To encourage our jurisdictions to re-evaluate their Plan's Mitigation Strategy as well, each County was asked to indicate their action/project progress since the development of their Plan. In response to our request, the County provided the information below in May 2007:

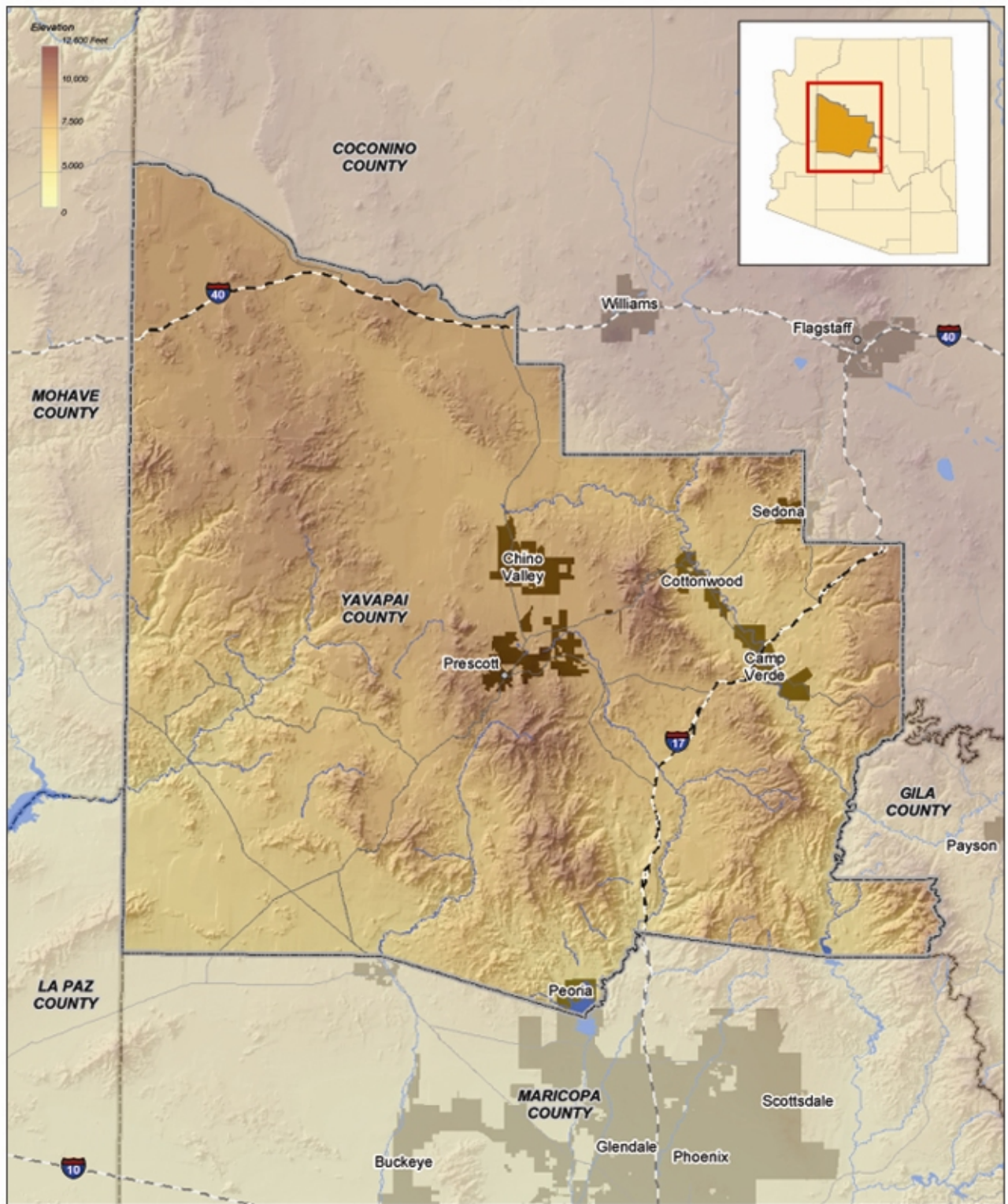
Action/Project Name	Action# in Current Plan	Hazard Mitigated	Progress Summary	Comments
Neighborhood Wildfire Assessments	6.D.2	Wildfire	Significant progress achieved, approximately 50%.	CWPP is expanding, so % difficult to determine.
County Fuels Crew	6.B.3	Wildfire	Steady progress, 25%.	Much must be re-accomplished annually.
Ensure Potable Water Supply	10.B.2	Water Supply	Project will be complete later this summer, approximately 60% now.	N/A
Reverse 9-1-1 System	3.A.1	Notification of Public	Project at 50%.	Equip purchased, upload & testing later this year.

Other Planning Mechanisms

During their planning process, the County staff reviewed and evaluated their resources and capabilities in the areas of Existing Plans, Policies and Ordinances; Technical Staff/Resources and Financial Resources. Although all resources are important to a community's ability to mitigate the effects of natural and human-caused hazards, we elected to ask the County to complete a survey indicating their legal and regulatory resources to be included in the Plan. We are pleased to receive feedback that reflects awareness of the need for regulations and guidelines that may have an effect on loss reduction. We believe such resources and capabilities can play a critical part in developing and maintaining a more disaster resistant community. The information below was provided by the County in May 2007:

	Yes or No	Approval Date	Responsible Authority	Plan Use/Comments
Plan/Policy/Ordinance	No	Date	Authority	Plan Use/Comments
Building Code	Y	4-2004	County	Building and related codes
Zoning Ordinance	Y	2-2004	County	Planning and zoning ordinances
Subdivision Ordinance or Regulations	Y	7-2004	County	Subdivision regulations
Special Purpose Ordinance	Y	3-2001	County	Flood control district, flood damage prevention ordinance
Site Plan Review Requirements	Y		County	Admin review required prior to issue of building permit
General or Comprehensive Plan	Y	4-2003	County	Land use, transportation, water resources and open space
Emergency Response Plan	Y	1-2005	County EM	Emergency/disaster response
Post-Disaster Recovery Plan	Y	1-2005	County EM	Disaster recovery
Source: Survey from ADEM to County Emergency Managers, 2007.				

Other: As amendments, General Plan 14 "area plans" adopted since 1975, Central Yavapai County Transportation study, 1998; Verde Valley Regional Transportation study, 1999; Yavapai County Master Trails Plan for Non-Motorized Multi-Use, 1998.



LEGEND

- Interstate
- Highway
- City
- Major Stream
- County
- County Seat
- Lake



State of Arizona
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Map 16 Major Features of Yavapai County